

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 5 1. A method of transmitting messages in a tele-
communication system comprising a first network offering
circuit-switched services, a second network offering
packet-switched services, and at least one mobile station
supporting the first and the second network, the method
10 comprising the steps of: checking, in response to the
need to transmit at least one message, if the mobile sta-
tion is attached to the second network,
transmitting said at least one message to the
second network in response to the mobile station being
15 attached to the second network, and
transmitting said at least one message to the
first network in response to failure to transmit the mes-
sage via the second network.
- 20 2. A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said
message is transmitted via the first network in response
to non-attachment to the second network.
- 25 3. A method as claimed in claim 1, further com-
prising the steps of: suspending packet-switched service
in the second network before transmitting said message to
the first network, and
continuing offering the packet-switched service
after transmission of said message at the request of the
30 first network or the mobile station.
4. A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein
the first network is a GSM network and the second
network is a GPRS network.

5. A method as claimed in claim 4, wherein said message is a text-based short message of a short message service SMS or a picture message.

5 6. A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein
the user of the mobile station is offered the option to choose whether the messages are transmitted via the first network or the second network, and
the messages are transmitted in accordance with
10 the user's choice.

7. A mobile station comprising message means for transmitting messages via a first network offering circuit-switched services and via a second network offering
15 packet-switched services, wherein said message means are configured to

check, in response to the need to transmit at least one message, if the mobile station is attached to the second network,
20 transmit said at least one message to the second network in response to the mobile station being attached to the second network, and

transmit said at least one message to the first network in response to failure to transmit the message
25 via the second network.

8. A mobile station as claimed in claim 7, wherein
said message means are configured to transmit
30 said message via the first network in response to non-attachment to the second network.

9. A mobile station as claimed in claim 7, wherein
35 the mobile station's user interface (UI) is configured to display a menu offering the user of the mobile

station the option to choose whether messages are transmitted via the first network or the second network, and

said message means are configured to transmit the messages in accordance with the user's choice.

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10. A mobile station as claimed in claim 7, wherein

the first network is a GSM network, the second network is a GPRS network, and said message is a short message of a short message service SMS.

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